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News Release

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Distressed swimmer rescued from waters off Larsen's Beach

MOLOA'A – Firefighters resuscitated and airlifted a 27-year-old California man from rough surf in waters off Ka'aka'aniu Beach, also known as Larsen's Beach, on Sunday morning.

Personnel from Hanalei and Kaiākea fire stations, along with Rescue 3 aboard Air 1, responded to the scene shortly after 11:30 a.m., when it was reported that a male swimmer needed assistance.

At the scene, Air 1 located the man who was waving for help in large surf. As rescuers were preparing to disembark, two large sets of waves overcame the swimmer. When he surfaced, he was face-down in the water.

A rescue specialist immediately entered the water, attached a rescue tube and began compressions on the man until he started to breathe on his own.

The man was airlifted in stable condition to the Larsen's Beach parking lot where awaiting medics transported him to Wilcox Hospital for further evaluation.

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